

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **Noriaki ABE, et al.**

Serial No.: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filed: **January 22, 2002**

For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING SECONDHAND INFORMATION**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 22, 2002

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fees of the above application, please amend the application
as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 20 as follows:

20. (Amended) The system according to claim 19, further comprising:

service data collection means that, when said article has been serviced, collects service
data that shows the facts relating to the service of the article;

service history storage means that stores the collected service data as service history
on said data base; and

service history provision means that, while said article is being put up for sale as a secondhand article, provides the service history for said article stored in said data base, to a customer via a network.

REMARKS

The above amendment to the claim has been made to place the application in better condition for examination.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

In the event there are any additional fees required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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WGK/l

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 20 has been amended as follows:

20. The system according to claim ~~20~~ 19, further comprising:

service data collection means that, when said article has been serviced, collects service data that shows the facts relating to the service of the article;

service history storage means that stores the collected service data as service history on said data base; and

service history provision means that, while said article is being put up for sale as a secondhand article, provides the service history for said article stored in said data base, to a customer via a network.